

Small Group Discussions: Establishing a Vision for Cycling in Our Community

When asked what the top three “big things” Colorado Springs could accomplish or change in the next ten years to become a more Bicycle Friendly Community, citizens overwhelmingly voiced desire to improve **connectivity, safety**, and establish a **bicycling community culture**.

Other changes noted included:

- Improved way-finding and signage
- Improve trail and street maintenance
- Making Colorado Springs a “destination city” for people of all ages and abilities on bicycles.

When asked how Colorado Springs should continuously evaluate progress, citizens decided on three measures deemed most effective in measuring community progress.

- First, Colorado Springs should track increases in **distance of continuous bike paths** to monitor “low-stress” bicycling infrastructure.
- Second, a **decrease in annual bicycle verses motorized vehicle interactions** would indicate an improvement in safety.
- Thirdly, an **increase in the percentage of people who ride a bicycle daily** for both work and recreation would most accurately evaluate our progress towards bicycle community culture.

Other possible evaluations which were mentioned included:

- Survey’s distributed to the community
- Improved national ranking system with the League of American Cyclists
- Increased annual funding to continue improving bicycling infrastructure
- Incentives such as rewards for bicycling and bicycling events

Thus, from these group discussions a Mission Statement was created as follows,

“Colorado Springs is a vibrant community where bicycling is integral to the City’s culture and quality of life for people of all ages and abilities, where a well-connected and well-maintained network of trails and on-street infrastructure offers a bicycling experience that is convenient, safe and inviting for transportation and recreational purpose.”